

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing apparatus comprising:  
image reading means for reading plural pages of a document;  
image storage means for storing image data produced by said image reading means;  
display means for displaying image data stored in the image storage means; and  
control means for controlling the reading operation for the plural pages of the document and displaying of image data on the display means such that the stored image data is displayed at an interval during the reading operation before completing the reading operation for the plural pages of document.
  
2. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising means for executing a binding reading mode wherein, in the binding reading mode, a series of document sheets are divided into a plural set of document sheets, each divided set of document sheets is separately read, and the plural set of image read by the plural reading operations are combined and stored as a series of read image, wherein the interval is an interval between a first

reading process for one divided set of document sheet and a second reading process for another divided set of document sheets.

3. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 2, further comprising command acceptance means for accepting a read end command in the binding reading mode,

wherein, in the binding reading mode, said control means is adapted to be capable of displaying image data stored in the image storage means on the display means before the command acceptance means accepts the read-end command.

4. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein, in the binding reading mode, said control means is capable of displaying image data stored in said image storage means on the display means before the second reading process is started.

5. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein, in the binding reading mode, said control means is capable of displaying image data stored in said image storage means on the display means after completion of the first reading process and before the second reading process is started.

6. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising re-read means for re-reading a document page by said image reading means and replacing image data corresponding to image data currently displayed on said display means with image data obtained by the re-reading.

7. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein in response to completion of the first reading process, inputting of a command to display image data stored in the image storage means on the display means is enabled.

8. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein in response to completion of the first reading process, inputting of a read-end command in the binding reading mode is enabled.

9. An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a re-read command is allowed to be input to re-read a document page by said image reading means and replace image data currently displayed on said display means with image data obtained by the re-reading.

10. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprises manual means for temporarily suspending

the reading operation for the series of document sheets and resuming the suspended reading operation,  
wherein the interval is provided by said manual means.

11. An image processing method comprising:  
an image reading step for reading a plural pages of a document;  
an image storage step for storing image data produced by said image reading means;  
a display step for displaying image data stored in the image storage means; and  
a control step for controlling the reading operation for the plural pages of the document and displaying of image data on the display means such that the stored image data is displayed at an interval during the reading operation before completing the reading operation for the plural pages of document.

12. An image processing method according to Claim 1, further comprising an execution step for executing a binding reading mode wherein, in the binding reading mode, a series of document sheets are divided into a plural set of document sheets, each divided set of document sheets is separately read, and the plural set of image read by the plural reading operations are combined and stored as a series of read image,

wherein the interval is an interval between a first reading process for one divided set of document sheet and a second reading process for another divided set of document sheets.

13. An image processing method according to Claim12, further comprising a command acceptance step for accepting a read end command in the binding reading mode,

wherein, in the binding reading mode, said control step is adapted to be capable of displaying image data stored in the image storage means on the display means before the command acceptance step accepts the read-end command.

14. An image processing method according to Claim 12, wherein, in the binding reading mode, said control step is capable of displaying image data stored in said image storage means on the display means before the second reading process is started.

15. An image processing method according to Claim 12, wherein, in the binding reading mode, said control step is capable of displaying image data stored in said image storage means on the display means after completion of the first reading process and before the second input process is started.

16. An image processing method according to Claim 11, further comprising a re-read step for re-reading a document page by said image reading means and replacing image data corresponding to image data currently displayed on said display means with image data obtained by the re-reading.

17. An image processing method according to Claim 12, wherein in response to completion of the first reading process, inputting of a command to display image data stored in the image storage means on the display means is enabled.

18. An image processing method according to Claim 13, wherein in response to completion of the first input process, inputting of a read-end command in the binding reading mode is enabled.

19. An image processing method according to claim 15, wherein a re-read command is allowed to be input to re-read a document page by said image reading means and replace image data corresponding to image data currently displayed on said display means with image data obtained by the re-reading.

20. An image processing method according to Claim 11,

further comprising a manual step for temporarily suspending the reading operation for the series of document sheets and resuming the suspended reading operation,

wherein the interval is provided by said manual step.

21. A program for implementing an image processing method according to claim 11.

22. A program for implementing an image processing method according to claim 12.

23. A program for implementing an image processing method according to claim 13.

24. A program for implementing an image processing method according to claim 14.

25. A program for implementing an image processing method according to claim 15.

26. A program for implementing an image processing method according to claim 16.

27. A program for implementing an image processing method according to claim 17.

28. A program for implementing an image processing method according to claim 18.

29. A program for implementing an image processing method according to claim 19.

30. A program for implementing an image processing method according to claim 20.